



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

EDWIN et al.

Atty. Ref.: 613-91 (AMK)

Serial No. 10/507,493

TC/A.U.: 2856

Filed: January 19, 2005

Examiner: S. Shah

For: APPARATUS FOR INSPECTING DEFORMATION OF
PIPES

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November 22, 2006

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**COMMENTS ON EXAMINER'S STATEMENT
OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

With respect to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance in the Notice of Allowance dated August 24, 2006, Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner to any extent that such statement characterizes the invention in a manner at variance with the actual wording of the claims.

In addition, the Examiner's Statement contends that Bellwood discloses guides capable of guiding a dynamic probe along the surface of a pipe in the direction "parallel to the longitudinal axis of the pipe." Applicants respectfully disagree with this contention. The Bellwood apparatus is designed to remain at a fixed point while the workpiece to be tested is rotated underneath it. The "guides," or more accurately further probes, are non-rotatable and are not capable of moving in a direction parallel to the longitudinal axis of the pipe. Rather, these probes and the main probe are held at a fixed point along the longitudinal axis of the workpiece while the workpiece is rotated.

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As set forth in the Notice of Allowance, these comments are being filed along with the payment of the Issue Fee.

Respectfully submitted,

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